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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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OGILVY RENAULT LLP 1981 MCGILL COLLEGE AVENUE SUITE 1600 MONTREAL, QC H3A2Y3 CANADA			EXAMINER NGUYEN, KHAI N	
			ART UNIT 2609	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/806,135

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS ET AL.

Examiner

Khai N. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 15 August 2005
23 March 2004
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on August 15, 2005 was filed after the filing date of the instant application on March 23, 2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 32 objected to because of the following informalities: the word "announcement" in this claim should be replaced with "announcement player" as shown in the drawings and the detailed description of the preferred embodiment. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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4. Claims 1, 4-26, and 29-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Emam et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0201533 A1).

Regarding claims 1 and 26, Emam et al. teach a method for providing an inbound call service and /or providing single number service to a public switched telephone network (PSTN) service subscriber (Fig. 9 – 902 – paragraph [0030], lines 17-19), the method comprising:

receiving a call initiation message at a call service node (CSN) (Fig. 1 – 112 – paragraph [0030], lines 6-10) that does not complete the call in the PSTN (Fig. 10 – 1010, paragraph [0054], lines 3-4, Fig. 11 – 1110, paragraph [0055], lines 3-4);

extracting a called number from the call initiation message (Fig. 1 – 114 – paragraph [0030], lines 19-21), and identifying the service subscriber associated with the called number (Fig. 1 – 114 – paragraph [0030], lines 21-24);

issuing an inbound call notification message (Fig. 10 – 1050 – paragraph [0054], lines 22-23, Fig. 11 – 1150 – paragraph [0055], lines 29-31) over a messaging network to at least one messaging device operated by the service subscriber (paragraph [0054], lines 29-32, paragraph [0055], lines 35-38), the inbound, call notification message providing information related to the inbound call and requesting that the service subscriber select a call treatment option for the inbound call (Fig. 10 – 1020 – paragraph [0054], lines 9-16. Fig. 11 – 1120, paragraph [0055], lines 10-26);

routing the call to a call parking facility associated with the service (Fig. 10 – 1010 – paragraph [0054], lines 3-5. Fig. 11 – 1110 – paragraph [0055], lines 3-6);

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receiving from, the service subscriber a reply to the inbound call notification message indicating the call treatment option (paragraph [0051], lines 1-10); and
controlling the call from the CSN in accordance with the call treatment option (paragraph [0051], lines 11-17).

Regarding claims 4 and 29, Emam et al. teach a method wherein identifying the service subscriber comprises: extracting the called number from the call initiation message (Fig. 12 – 1210 – paragraph [0056], lines 3-4) and using the called number in a query to retrieve a service subscriber profile that stores default information about how calls to the service subscriber are to be handled (Fig. 1 – 1220 - paragraph [0056], lines 9-12).

Regarding claims 5 and 30, Emam et al. teach a method wherein issuing an inbound call notification message comprises:

examining the service subscriber profile to identify at least one messaging network address specified by the service subscriber (Fig. 10 – 1020, paragraph [0054], lines 10-13); and

formulating and sending an inbound call notification message to each messaging network address specified in the service subscriber profile, a format of each inbound call notification message being determined by characteristics of the messaging network through which the inbound call notification message is sent, and each inbound call notification message containing a list of the directory numbers associated with the service subscriber (Fig. 10 – 1030-1050, paragraph [0054], lines 17-39).

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Regarding claims 6 and 32, Emam et al. teach a method wherein routing the call to a call parking facility comprises routing the call to an announcement player that requests that the caller wait while the call is being processed (Fig. 10 –1010 – paragraph [0054], lines 3-7).

Regarding claims 7 and 33, Emam et al. teach a method wherein routing the call to a call parking facility comprises routing the call to a voice mail box (paragraph [0030], lines 25-27).

Regarding claim 8, Emam et al. teach a method as claimed wherein the reply received from the service subscriber requests voice mail monitoring and the method further comprises:

activating a trunk monitor connected to a trunk facility through which the call is routed (Fig. 10 -1010, paragraph [0054], lines 4-5);

converting monitored content into a format compatible with a one of the at least one client device from which the reply was received (paragraph [0054], lines 27-29);
and

forwarding the converted monitored content to the client device from which the reply was received, to permit the service subscriber to listen to the voice mail message in real time (paragraph [0054], lines 29-39).

Regarding claim 9, Emam et al. teach a method wherein converting monitored content comprises converting pulse code modulated data to a streaming audio format (paragraph [0030], lines 43-46).

Regarding claims 10 and 34, Emam et al. teach a method wherein routing the call to a call parking facility comprises:

extracting the called number from the call initiation message and using the called number in a query to retrieve a service subscriber profile (Fig. 1 – 114, paragraph [0030], lines 19-24);

extracting a calling party number from the call initiation message (Fig. 1 – 112, paragraph [0030], lines 46-47);

searching the caller profile to determine whether the calling party number is associated with a specific voice mail box to which the call is to be routed (Fig. 1 – 112, 120, paragraph [0030], lines 46-49); and

if the calling party number is associated with a specific voice mail box, routing the inbound call to the specific voice mail box, otherwise routing the call to one of an announcement player and a default voice mail box specified in the service subscriber profile (Fig. 1 – 112, 120 - paragraph [0030], lines 49-55).

Regarding claims 11 and 35, Emam et al. teach a method wherein routing the call to the voice mail box comprises modifying the call initiation message by inserting an address of the voice mail box into a called number field of the call initiation message, and inserting a subscriber telephone number associated with the voice mail box in a redirecting number field of the call initiation message, if the subscriber telephone number associated with the voice mail box is different from the dialed telephone number in the original called number field of the call initiation message (Fig. 2 – 210, 220 – paragraph [0031], lines 1-11).

Regarding claims 12 and 36, Emam et al. teach a method wherein controlling the call from the CSN comprises releasing the call from the call parking facility and reconnecting the call to a telephone number specified in the reply, if the reply is received before a predetermined period of time lapses, and applying a default call treatment option specified in the service subscriber profile if the reply is not received before the predetermined time lapses (paragraph [0032]).

Regarding claims 13 and 37, Emam et al. teach a method wherein the default call treatment option is determined by a time of day and day of week (paragraph [0045]); and

wherein the service subscriber directory number is selected based on a time of day and day of week (Fig. 8 – paragraph [0047]).

Regarding claim 14, Emam et al. teach a method wherein the default call treatment option is forwarding the call to a voice mail box (paragraph [0055], lines 41).

Regarding claim 15, Emam et al. teach a method wherein reconnecting the call to a telephone number specified in the reply comprises one of: reconnecting the call to a directory number specified in the service subscriber profile; reconnecting the call to a service-subscriber-selected one of a plurality of telephone numbers specified in the service subscriber profile; and, reconnecting the call to a telephone number supplied by the service subscriber in the reply to the inbound call notification message (paragraph [0055], lines 29-47).

Regarding claims 16 and 38, Emam et al. teach a method further comprising storing a number of a calling party so that if the reply is received after the calling party

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has terminated the call, the CSN can use information in the reply and the stored number of the calling party to automatically establish a call between the service subscriber and the calling party (paragraph [0054], lines 9-13).

Regarding claim 17, Emam et al. teach a system for interactive real-time inbound call screening, comprising:

a call service node (CSN) connected to a common channel signaling network of a public switched telephone network, the CSN being associated with selected trunk resources in a bearer network of the PSTN (Fig. 1, paragraph [0030], Fig. 13, paragraph 0057));

a call control application (CCA) for receiving a content of common channel signaling messages from the CSN, and directing the CSN to selectively formulate and issue common channel signaling messages to PSTN switches that support the trunk resources, the CCA being adapted to request formulation and transmission of at least one inbound call notification message to a service subscriber upon receipt of a call initiation message addressed to a telephone number associated with the service subscriber, the at least one inbound call notification message providing information to the service subscriber about the inbound call and requesting selection of a call treatment option for handling the inbound call from the service subscriber (Fig. 3, paragraph [0033]); and

at least one call parking facility to which the CSN can route inbound calls to service subscribers, pending a receipt by the CCA of instructions in a reply to one of the

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at least one messaging network message, the reply providing information about how the respective calls are to be treated (Fig. 10 – 1010-1050, Fig. 11 – 1110-1150).

Regarding claim 18, Emam et al. teach a system wherein the CCA is further adapted to receive the reply from the service subscriber (Fig. 3 - 340, paragraph [0033], lines 15-19);

extract the information about how the call is to be treated (Fig. 3 – 310-320, paragraph [0033], lines 8-11); and

direct the CSN to release the call from the call parking facility, and to reconnect the call in accordance with the information about how the call is to be treated (Fig. 3 – 340, paragraph [0033], lines 20-30).

Regarding claim 19, Emam et al. teach a system further comprising a database for storing service subscriber profile records for specifying default call treatment for inbound telephone calls to each service subscriber (Fig. 3 – 310-330, Fig. 14 – 1410-1460).

Regarding claim 20, Emam et al. teach a system wherein the call parking facility comprises a service subscriber's voice mail box (Fig. 1 - 112, paragraph [0030], lines 12-16).

Regarding claim 21, Emam et al. teach a system further comprising a trunk monitor connected to at least one of the selected trunk resources in the PSTN, the monitor being controllable to selectively sample voice data on the one of the selected trunk resources (paragraph [0054], lines 3-7).

Regarding claim 22, Emam et al. teach a system further comprising a means for dynamically converting the voice data into a format compatible with a messaging device used to send a reply to the CCA in response to the inbound call notification message (paragraph [0054], lines 27-31).

Regarding claim 23, Emam et al. teach a system wherein the CCA is further adapted to route inbound calls to a plurality of dialed numbers associated with a given service subscriber to a single voice mail box associated with the service subscriber (paragraph [0055], lines 44-47).

Regarding claim 24, Emam et al. teach a system wherein the CCA is further adapted to route inbound calls to a single service subscriber number to a plurality of voice mail boxes, depending on a calling party number extracted from a call initiation message associated with the inbound call and information specified in a user profile record associated with the service subscriber (paragraph [0054], lines 32-39).

Regarding claim 25, Emam et al. teach a system wherein the CCA is adapted to formulate and transmit the inbound call notification message in any one of a Short Message Service protocol, a Wireless Application Protocol, an Instant Message protocol, and a Partial Collision Detection protocol (paragraph [0031], lines 16-21).

Regarding claim 31, Emam et al. teach a method further comprising formulating the inbound call notification message to include an option to permit the service subscriber to specify a directory number that is different from the plurality of directory numbers in the service subscriber profile (paragraph [0055], lines 44-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2-3 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Emam et al. (U.S. Pub No. 2005/0201533 A1) in view of Williams et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,097,801).

Claim 2 and 27 – The method as claimed in claim 1 and 26 wherein prior, to receiving the call initiation message at the CSN, the method further comprises steps of:

receiving a dialed number at a service switching point that serves a calling party that initiated the inbound call;

translating the dialed number and determining that the dialed number is a ported number;

querying a service control point for routing instructions for completing the call to the dialed number; and

formulating the call initiation message in response to receipt of the routing instructions from the service control point.

Regarding claims 2 and 27, Emam et al. disclose everything claimed as applied above (see claim 1 and 26). However, Emam et al. fail to specifically disclose the detail step of determining that “the dialed number is a ported number” - well known in the art

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confirmed by the applicants in this instant application. Although Emam et al. teach their method "can operated in a circuit switching networks like Integrated Services Digital Networks (ISDN) and variations thereon" (Emam et al., paragraph [0064], lines 18-22).

In the same field of endeavor, Williams et al. disclose a method for the treatment of calls from a calling party to a specific number of a ported called party (Williams et al., column 4, lines 1-33). The advantage of Williams's invention is to eliminated calls being routed several times between networks and inefficient routing schemes (Williams et al., column 3, lines 54-55) and to eliminate the high costs and time delays associated with queries of a remote database (Williams et al., column 3, lines 62-63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Emam et al. with the treatment of calls from a calling party to a specific number of a ported called party, translating the dialed number and determining that the dialed number is a ported number, such that all calls are properly identified for further advantage of reduced the high costs and time delays.

Claims 3 and 28 - The method as in claim 2 and 27 wherein
formulating the call initiation message comprises formulating an Initial
Address Message containing a routing code for routing the Initial Address
Message to the CSN.

Regarding claims 3 and 28, again Emam et al. disclose everything claimed as applied above, but fail to describe in detail about the Initial Address Message is an American Standard Institute (ANSI) Integrated Services Digital Network User Part

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(ISUP) message that is well known in the art. Although Emam et al. teach their method “can operated in a circuit switching networks like Integrated Services Digital Networks (ISDN) and variations thereon” (Emam et al., paragraph [0064], lines 18-22).

In the same field of endeavor, Williams et al. disclose a flow diagram that is used for providing an understanding of ISUP and IAM (Williams et al., Fig. 1, column 61-65). The advantage of Williams's invention is to support end-to-end signaling, i.e. in transit (local, tandem and toll) connections (Williams et al., column 6, lines 56-59), and the IAM messages during ISUP signaling call set up (Williams et al., column 7, lines 1-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Emam et al. with the detail operation of ISUP and IAM messages, such that to support end-to-end signaling and IAM messages contain information about both the calling and called parties.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Williams et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0013255 A1) teach a method and apparatus for parking the call and providing call treatment when service resources are not available.

Crockett et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0059023 A1) teach method of providing call processing services for the incoming calls to the subscribers.

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Brahm et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0215078 A1) teach system and method for call screening.

Schuster et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,804,224) teach system and method for providing telephone services in a data network.

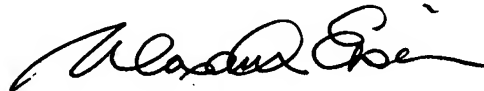
Schuster et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,016,675) teach system and method for providing telephone services for subscribers of wireless network by using the data network.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khai N. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 270-3141. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 6:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Eisen can be reached on (571) 272-7687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexander Eisen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alexander Eisen
SPE
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KNN
6/6/2007